



North Dakota

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IN THIS ISSUE

Agricultural Prices

Meat Animals PDI

Ag Chemical Usage

NASS Ag Newsletter

Farm Labor

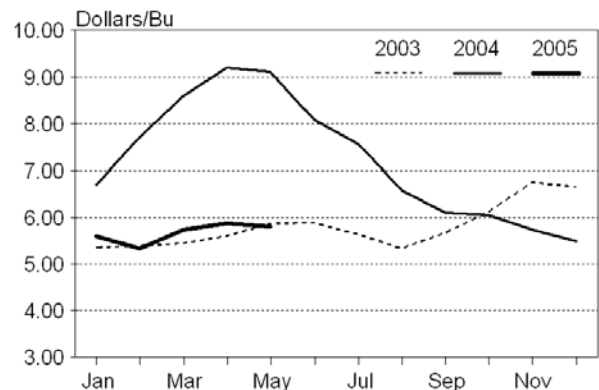
AGRICULTURAL PRICES

North Dakota
The Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products in May is 114 percent of the 1990-1992 base. This is down 5 percent from last

year but 11 percent above two years ago. The All Crops Index, at 104 percent of the base, is down 13 percent from May 2004 while the All Livestock Index, at 133 percent, is up 11 percent from last year. May indexes are calculated using preliminary mid-month prices.

The April Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products, recalculated with full month prices, was 113 percent of the base, down 4 percent from April 2004. The All Crops Index, at 106 percent, was down 10 percent from the previous year while the All Livestock Index, at 131 percent, was up 12 percent.

**Soybean Prices Received
North Dakota, 2003-2005**



Prices Received by Farmers, May 2005

Item	Unit	North Dakota			United States			Effective U.S. Parity Price May 2005
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary	
		May 2004	Apr 2005	May 2005	May 2004	Apr 2005	May 2005	
		--- Dollars ---			--- Dollars ---			- Dollars -
Wheat, All	Bu	3.96	3.28	3.33	3.82	3.35	3.28	10.30
Durum	Bu	4.08	3.51	3.50	4.21	3.63	3.57	---
Other Spring	Bu	3.94	3.22	3.30	4.01	3.39	3.52	---
Winter	Bu	---	2.22	2.30	3.72	3.27	3.13	---
Corn	Bu	2.77	1.86	1.80	2.87	2.00	1.92	6.91
Rye	Bu	---	---	---	---	---	---	6.59
Oats	Bu	1.26	---	---	1.70	1.65	1.58	4.10
Barley, All	Bu	2.50	1.96	2.02	2.78	2.32	2.53	7.00
Feed	Bu	2.01	1.33	1.30	2.39	1.54	1.91	---
Malting	Bu	2.88	2.34	2.40	3.14	2.74	3.02	---
Sunflower, All	Cwt	13.70	16.10	16.00	13.70	15.20	14.80	---
Oil	Cwt	12.60	14.20	14.00	---	---	---	---
Non-oil	Cwt	16.60	21.10	20.50	---	---	---	---
Baled Hay, All ^{1/}	Ton	55.00	58.00	57.00	101.00	96.90	107.00	---
Alfalfa ^{1/}	Ton	61.00	62.00	61.00	109.00	103.00	116.00	---
Other ^{1/}	Ton	45.00	46.00	46.00	78.30	75.40	76.10	---
Canola	Cwt	13.20	10.20	---	---	---	---	---
Flaxseed	Bu	7.11	12.30	13.00	7.10	12.30	13.00	14.00
Soybeans	Bu	9.12	5.87	5.80	9.56	6.03	6.09	16.70
Dry Edible Beans, All	Cwt	18.20	23.90	22.50	19.90	28.80	25.50	52.40
Navy	Cwt	17.80	23.80	---	---	---	---	---
Pinto	Cwt	18.10	25.50	---	---	---	---	---
Potatoes, All	Cwt	5.60	6.25	6.05	6.47	6.17	6.71	15.60
Fresh ^{2/}	Cwt	3.15	5.45	---	7.76	7.24	---	---
Processing	Cwt	5.85	6.00	---	5.64	5.39	---	---
Beef Cattle	Cwt	80.80	96.70	94.80	88.50	94.00	92.90	179.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	100.00	108.00	109.00	92.60	98.30	96.90	---
Cows	Cwt	55.90	61.00	61.50	52.50	57.10	58.70	---
Calves	Cwt	115.00	138.00	139.00	121.00	140.00	141.00	243.00
Sheep	Cwt	36.00	42.00	---	36.00	44.40	---	87.70
Lambs	Cwt	100.00	113.00	---	103.00	114.00	---	217.00
Hogs	Cwt	55.50	53.30	---	56.60	51.20	55.40	111.00

^{1/} Alfalfa, other and all hay are preliminary prices only. ^{2/} Fresh market prices only, includes table stock.

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AGRICULTURAL PRICES (Continued)

United States

The May All Farm Products Index is 122 percent of its 1990-92 base, unchanged from the April index but 5 percent below the May 2004 index. The All Crops Index is 121, unchanged from April but 2 percent below May 2004. The Food Grains Index, at 108, is down 2 percent from last month and 16 percent below May 2004. The Feed Grains and Hay Index is 97, up 2 percent from last month but 24 percent below May 2004. The Oil Bearing Crops Index, at 109, is unchanged from April but 36 percent lower than May 2004. The Livestock and Products Index, at 122, is unchanged from last month but down 8 percent from May 2004.

Index Numbers of Farm Prices, May 2005

Indexes and Ratios	North Dakota			United States		
	May 2004	Apr 2005	May 2005	May 2004	Apr 2005	May 2005
Prices Received	(1990-92 = 100)					
All Farm Products	120	113	114	129	122	122
Crops	120	106	104	124	121	121
Food Grains	123	104	104	128	110	108
Feed Grains & Hay	116	91	89	127	95	97
Oil Bearing Crops ^{1/}	151	129	120	170	109	109
Potatoes & Dry Beans ^{2/}	90	95	94	111	111	117
Livestock	120	131	133	133	122	122
Meat Animals	116	131	134	121	126	126
Dairy Products	141	143	141	148	116	114
Other Livestock Products ^{3/}	113	113	113	141	121	122
Prices Paid	---	---	---	135	139	139
Ratio ^{4/}	---	---	---	96	88	88

^{1/} Includes non-oil sunflower. ^{2/} North Dakota includes sugarbeets. ^{3/} United States excludes wool. ^{4/} Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid.

MEAT ANIMALS - PRODUCTION, DISPOSITION & INCOME

North Dakota

Cattle and Calves: Cash receipts from marketings of cattle and calves during 2004 increased 7 percent from 2003. All cattle and calf marketings during 2004 were down 8 percent from 2003. The 2004 annual average price of cattle and calves, at \$92.50 per 100 pounds live weight (cwt), was up from the 2003 price of \$79.40.

Hogs & Pigs: Cash receipts from hogs and pigs during 2004 were up 39 percent from the previous year. Marketings were

3 percent above 2003 while the 2004 annual average price per cwt increased from \$39.70 to \$51.40.

Sheep & Lambs: Cash receipts from marketings of sheep and lambs in 2004 were down 6 percent from 2003.

Marketings were down 23 percent from the previous year. The average annual price of sheep and lambs per cwt for 2004 increased from \$71.50 to \$87.70.

Meat Animals (Cattle, Sheep & Hogs) Production & Income, North Dakota, 1999-2004

Year	Production	Marketings	Avg Price Per 100 Lbs	Value of Production	Cash Receipts	Value of Home Consumption	Gross Income
--- 1,000 Lbs ---			--- Dollars ---		----- 1,000 Dollars -----		
Cattle & Calves							
1999	644,368	711,610	68.30	436,719	486,089	5,150	491,239
2000	643,912	614,980	75.80	483,194	466,393	5,575	471,968
2001	662,659	736,820	79.50	524,046	585,742	5,824	591,566
2002	686,606	836,925	73.10	500,095	612,180	5,402	617,582
2003	745,605	870,000	79.40	588,039	690,905	6,165	697,070
2004	763,410	799,250	92.50	702,022	738,975	7,408	746,383
Sheep & Lambs							
1999	10,277	10,479	65.20	6,300	6,830	81	6,911
2000	10,615	10,869	69.30	7,175	7,533	94	7,627
2001	9,095	10,263	53.60	4,983	5,504	73	5,577
2002	9,255	13,909	54.40	5,430	7,569	90	7,659
2003	7,472	10,799	71.50	6,130	7,718	82	7,800
2004	7,705	8,265	87.70	6,617	7,249	80	7,329
Hogs & Pigs							
1999	95,296	100,630	30.10	33,141	35,968	304	36,272
2000	100,229	102,390	43.10	46,114	47,891	459	48,350
2001	92,042	97,840	45.40	44,657	47,917	489	48,406
2002	79,018	82,040	36.40	31,345	32,704	386	33,090
2003	66,980	67,409	39.70	29,645	30,252	425	30,677
2004	66,934	69,628	51.40	38,920	42,112	561	42,673

North Dakota

Farm operators applied nitrogen to 98 percent of the other spring wheat acres in 2004. Phosphate was applied to 86 percent of the other spring wheat acres and potash to 27 percent. Comparison data for other spring wheat fertilizer usage came from 2002. During 2002, nitrogen was applied to 97 percent of other spring wheat acreage, phosphate 83 percent and potash 19 percent.

During 2004, nitrogen was applied to 95 percent of the durum wheat acres. Phosphate was applied to 70 percent, while potash applications covered 6 percent. The most recent comparison data for durum wheat was from 2002. During 2002, nitrogen was applied to 88 percent of the durum wheat acreage, phosphate 58 percent and potash 5 percent.

Nitrogen was applied to 64 percent of the soybean planted acreage in 2004. Phosphate was applied to 63 percent and potash to 11 percent. The most recent comparison data for soybeans was from 2002. That year, nitrogen was applied to 64 percent of soybean acreage, phosphate 59 percent and potash 11 percent.

MCPA was the most commonly applied herbicide in other spring wheat in 2004, with 60 percent of the acreage covered. Other herbicides used for other spring wheat include Fenoxaprop, Bromoxynil octanoate and Bromoxynil

applied to 49 percent, 25 percent and 20 percent of the acreage, respectively. During 2002, MCPA was applied to 62 percent of other spring wheat, Fenoxaprop 42 percent, Bromoxynil 30 percent and 2,4-D 26 percent.

The most popular herbicide applied to durum wheat in North Dakota during 2004 was Fenoxaprop, used on 55 percent of the acreage. Other commonly used herbicides for durum wheat include MCPA, Glyphosate and 2,4-D applied to 50 percent, 45 percent and 39 percent of the acreage, respectively. In 2002, 2,4-D was applied to 55 percent of durum wheat acreage and MCPA to 36 percent.

In soybeans, Glyphosate was the most commonly applied herbicide, covering 88 percent of the 2004 acreage. Other herbicides used were Imazamox and Imazethapyr at 5 percent each. In 2002, Glyphosate was applied to 50 percent of soybeans, Sethoxydim 25 percent and Bentazon 24 percent.

The agricultural chemical use estimates in this report refer to on-farm use of commercial fertilizers and pesticides on targeted crops for the 2004 crop year. The farmers operating the sampled fields were personally interviewed late in the growing season or after the farm operator had indicated that planned fertilizing and pesticide applications were completed.

NASS AG NEWSLETTER

Wheat: Winter wheat production is forecast at 1.59 billion bushels, up 6 percent from last year. Based on May 1 conditions, the U.S. winter wheat yield is forecast at 45.4 bushels per acre, 1.9 bushels more than last year's yield. Total U.S. wheat production is projected by the USDA's World Agricultural Outlook Board (WAOB) at 2.19 billion bushels, up 1 percent from last year. The projected price range for 2005/06 is \$2.55 to \$3.05 per bushel, compared with an estimated \$3.39 for 2004/05.

Corn: The U.S. 2005 corn crop is projected at 11.0 billion bushels by the WAOB, down 7 percent from last year's record production. The projection is based on March *Prospective Plantings* area, the harvested to planted relationship for 1999-2004 (omitting 2002), and a trend yield of 148.0 bushels per acre. The trend yield is adjusted up for the rapid planting progress of the 2005 crop and assumes normal weather. The smaller corn crop is offset by larger projected carryin stocks, leaving total 2005/06 U.S. corn supplies up from last year. The projected price range for the 2005 corn crop is \$1.55 to \$1.95 per bushel, compared with \$2.00 to \$2.10 for 2004/05.

Soybeans: The U.S. 2005 soybean production is projected at 2.90 billion bushels by the WAOB, 8 percent less than last season's record crop. U.S. soybean production is based

on intended soybean plantings of 73.9 million acres, historic harvested to planted relationships, and a trend yield of 39.9 bushels per acre from regional analysis. Soybean supplies are projected to reach 3.25 billion bushels, almost unchanged from 2004/05. Ending stocks for 2005/06 are projected at 290 million bushels, down 65 million bushels as crush and exports expand modestly. Season average soybean prices for 2005/06 are projected at \$4.70 to \$5.70 per bushel, compared with a forecast of \$5.65 for the 2004/05 crop. Soybean meal prices are forecast at \$150 to \$180 per short ton, compared with \$175 per ton for 2004/05. Soybean oil prices are also projected lower at 20 to 23 cents per pound compared with 22.5 cents per pound last year.

Cattle: Mid-May prices for choice steers (Nebraska direct, 1100-1300 pounds) averaged \$89 per cwt, down \$2 from mid-April. Feeder steer prices (Oklahoma City, medium-large frame, 750-800 pounds) were roughly \$112 per cwt, no change from a month ago.

Hogs: For the first two weeks of May, hog slaughter was running 0.2 percent below a year ago. Cash prices at mid-May (Iowa-Southern Minnesota direct, 51-52 percent lean) averaged \$56 per cwt, up \$4 from the mid-April price. Second quarter prices are expected to average \$55 per cwt.

FARM LABOR

April Farm Wage Rates^{1/}

Item	Northern Plains ^{2/}		United States ^{3/}	
	April 11-17 2004	April 10-16, 2005	April 11-17 2004	April 10-16, 2005
	- - - Dollars per Hour - - -			
All Farm Workers	8.95	9.70	9.23	9.34
Field	8.87	9.33	8.47	8.55
Livestock	8.51	9.69	8.95	9.23
Field and Livestock	8.73	9.46	8.59	8.73

1/ Excludes agricultural service workers. 2/ Northern Plains includes Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota. 3/ Excludes AK.

Northern Plains
During the week of April 10-16, 2005, farm operators paid hired workers an average of \$9.70 per hour in the Northern Plains region of Kansas, Nebraska, South Dakota and North Dakota. This compares to \$8.95 per hour during April 11-17, 2004. Paid workers with fieldwork responsibilities average \$9.33 per hour during the 2005 period and livestock workers averaged \$9.69.

United States
Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$9.34 per hour during the April 2005 reference week, up 11 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$8.55 per hour, up 8 cents from last April, while livestock workers earned \$9.23 per hour compared with \$8.95 a year earlier.



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